



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604**

DATE: JUL 20 2017

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Apex Landfill, Amsterdam, Ohio

FROM: Kenneth Ruffatto, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (IL/IN)

THRU: Nathan Frank, Section Chief
AECAB (IL/IN)

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Apex Landfill

Facility Location: 11 County Road 78, Amsterdam, Ohio

Date of Inspection: June 22, 2017

Lead Inspector: Kenneth Ruffatto, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Scott Connolly, Environmental Engineer, USEPA
2. Vicky Mei, Environmental Engineer, USEPA
3. Joe Tatarek, VP of Operations, Apex Environmental LLC

Purpose of Inspection: Municipal Solid Waste Landfill inspection

Facility Type: MSW Landfill

Regulations Central to Inspection: NSPS Subpart WWW, NESHAP Subpart AAAA

Arrival Time: 9:40 AM

Departure Time: 12:15 PM

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Credentials Presented
- ☒ CBI warning to facility provided

The following information was obtained verbally from Mr. Tatarek unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

Apex Environmental Services, LLC (Apex) owns a municipal solid waste landfill (the Landfill) in Amsterdam, Ohio. The Landfill is located in an old limestone quarry. Prior to 2012, the Landfill accepted waste by railcar, which was recently reinstated. Waste acceptance averages 5,000 tons per day with approximately 85% of the waste being municipal solid waste and the rest being a combination of construction and demolition and drilling waste. The Landfill liner is composed of three feet of clay, a geo-textile, a 60 millimeter liner, and additionally a layer of tire shreds, fabric, and three feet of select wastes as a leachate drainage layer. Leachate is collected by gravity and sumps pump it into a storage tank. Older parts of the Landfill on the north and parts of the east and west sides are currently covered with a transitional cover which is made up of two feet of screened earth. The rest of the landfill is covered with an intermediate cover made up of one foot of screened earth. Daily cover made up of virgin earth is placed on the newly placed waste. The gas collection and control system (GCCS) is comprised of over 100 horizontal and vertical active gas extraction wells. The horizontal wells are located at the top of the Landfill underneath the active waste fill area. The gas is vented to one of three flares: one on the western side and two on the eastern side of the Landfill. The flares have a total combined gas capacity of 7,000 standard cubic feet per minute (scfm). The site currently collects and controls approximately 5,000 scfm of gas. There are up to eight boundary gas probes used to measure off-site gas migration of explosive gases.

Staff Interview:

Mr. Tatarek indicated that there were odor issues at the site around 2011 that were most likely due to an increase in gas production from accepting wastewater sludge. To address the odor concerns, Apex was put under a state compliance order that required them to add more wells and do additional monitoring and reporting of their GCCS. The order also included an odor management plan to attempt to mitigate future odors. Since 2011, the Landfill still averages one odor complaint per day, and Mr. Tatarek stated that Apex has a quick response time to the complaints and attempts to trail the odor to the source. Most homes are located to the north of the Landfill and the predominant wind direction comes from the south, moving northward directly to the homes. There are two water trucks on-site that continuously water down roads for dust control. Facility staff stated that there have not been any measureable levels of explosive gases in the gas probes during monthly monitoring events.

Apex has an on-site gas operations manager who is responsible for doing all monthly monitoring including gas well monitoring and surface emissions monitoring (SEM). The state order required

Apex to do monthly, rather than quarterly, SEMs at the Landfill and also lowered the surface exceedance threshold from 500 parts per million (ppm) of methane to 250 ppm of methane. Apex has not found any surface exceedances in the past six to eight months and also have not had wells outside of the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) thresholds for oxygen, temperature and pressure. There are two wells currently at the Landfill which have higher operating values (HOVs) for temperature.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA toured the facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

Upon first entering the Landfill, EPA noticed visible particulate matter generated from truck traffic around the scalehouse. See Appendix A for photos.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

RECORDS REVIEW

- Site Map

CLOSING CONFERENCE

Requested documents:

- GCCS Design Plan
- Monthly Monitoring Reports (January 2017 to present)
- Gas Probe Readings (2017)

Concerns: EPA told Mr. Tatarek that there was airborne dust generated by truck traffic near the scalehouse.

SIGNATURES

Lead Inspector:  Date: 7/13/2017

Section Chief:  Date: 7/20/17

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APPENDICES AND ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix A: Photos

Facility Name: Apex Landfill

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APPENDIX A: PHOTOS

Photo No.	Date and Time	Description
P620001	June 22, 2017 at 10:01AM	Dust cloud from truck near scalehouse
P620004	June 22, 2017 at 10:09AM	Dust cloud from truck near scalehouse
P620006	June 22, 2017 at 10:10AM	Dust cloud from truck near scalehouse
P620008	June 22, 2017 at 10:10AM	Dust cloud from truck near scalehouse
P620009	June 22, 2017 at 11:35AM	Overview of active area of landfill
P620010	June 22, 2017 at 11:36AM	Overview of active area of landfill